

A. AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Please add new Claims 20 and 21 and amend the claims as indicated hereinafter.

1 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for transforming character strings that are
2 contained in a computer program, the method comprising the computer-implemented
3 steps of:
4 automatically parsing a computer program to identify identifying a hard coded string
5 that is contained in the computer program;
6 replacing the hard coded string contained in the computer program with a macro that
7 is uniquely associated with the hard coded string;
8 creating and storing an entry in a mapping of macros to strings, an entry that defines
9 an association of between the macro and the hard coded string; and
10 referencing the mapping in a program element that is associated with the computer
11 program.

1 2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the step of
2 automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string includes:
3 identifying a string further comprises the steps of:
4 identifying one or more computer programs that contain one or more hard coded
5 strings; and
6 automatically parsing at least one of the one or more of the computer programs to
7 identify the one or more hard coded strings while copying instructions from at
8 least one of the one or more of the computer programs to an output.

1 3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the step of
2 automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string that is
3 contained in the computer program includes automatically parsing a computer

4 program to identify a hard coded string that is both contained in the computer
5 program and does not already have a corresponding macro uniquely associated with
6 the hard coded string. identifying a string further includes the steps of:
7 parsing a computer program to locate hard coded strings contained therein; and
8 in response to locating a string, determining whether a macro was previously
9 generated for the string; and generating a corresponding macro uniquely
10 associated with the string only when a macro was not previously generated.

1 4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising
2 the computer-implemented steps of:
3 receiving a suggested macro for the identified hard coded string, and
4 generating the macro to replace the hard coded string contained in the computer
5 program based upon the suggested macro. wherein the step of identifying a
6 string further includes the steps of receiving a suggested macro string for the
7 identified string of characters, and wherein the step of replacing the string of
8 characters with a unique macro string includes the step of generating the
9 unique macro string based on the suggested macro string that is received.

1 5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising
2 the computer-implemented step of compiling the computer program to generate an
3 executable, including substituting in the executable the hard coded string ~~in the~~
4 ~~executable~~ for each instance of the ~~unique macro string~~ in the computer program.

1 6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising
2 the computer-implemented steps of:

3 parsing a the computer program to locate a second hard coded ~~strings~~ string contained
4 ~~therein;~~ therein, wherein the second hard coded string is different than the
5 hard coded string;
6 ~~creating and storing a mapping of macros to strings characters;~~
7 in response to locating a the second hard coded string contained in the computer
8 program, determining whether a macro was previously generated for the
9 second hard coded string by searching the mapping; and
10 generating a ~~corresponding second~~ macro uniquely associated with the second hard
11 coded string only when a macro was not previously generated for the second
12 hard coded string.

1 7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for transforming hard coded character strings
2 that are contained in a computer program, the method comprising the computer-
3 implemented steps of:
4 identifying a hard coded string that is contained in the computer program;
5 replacing the hard coded string in the computer program with a macro that is uniquely
6 associated with the hard coded string;
7 creating and storing in a macro file a macro definition ~~in a macro file~~ that defines an
8 association ~~of~~ between the macro and the hard coded string; and
9 referencing the macro definition in a ~~program element that is associated with the~~
10 computer program using a compiler directive that causes a compiler to include
11 the macro file during compilation of the computer program.

1 8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more
2 sequences of instructions for transforming character strings that are contained in a
3 unit of code, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one
4 or more processors causes the one or more processors to perform:

5 automatically parsing a computer program to identify ~~identifying a~~ hard coded string
6 that is contained in the computer program;
7 replacing the hard coded string contained in the computer program with a macro that
8 is uniquely associated with the hard coded string;
9 creating and storing ~~an entry~~ in a mapping of macros to strings, an entry that defines
10 an association ~~of~~ between the macro and the hard coded string; and
11 referencing the mapping in a program element that is associated with the computer
12 program.

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9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,
2 wherein the step of
3 automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string includes:
4 ~~identifying a string further comprises the steps of:~~
5 identifying one or more computer programs that contain one or more hard coded
6 strings; and
7 automatically parsing at least one of the one or more of the computer programs to
8 identify the one or more hard coded strings while copying instructions from at
9 least one of the one or more of the computer programs to an output.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,
2 wherein the step of automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard
3 coded string that is contained in the computer program includes automatically parsing
4 a computer program to identify a hard coded string that is both contained in the
5 computer program and does not already have a corresponding macro uniquely
6 associated with the hard coded string. ~~identifying a string further includes the steps of:~~
7 ~~parsing a computer program to locate hard coded strings contained therein; and~~

8 in response to locating a string, determining whether a macro was previously
9 generated for the string; and generating a corresponding macro uniquely
10 associated with the string only when a macro was not previously generated.

1 11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,
2 further comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

3 receiving a suggested macro for the identified hard coded string, and

4 generating the macro to replace the hard coded string contained in the computer

5 program based upon the suggested macro, wherein the step of identifying a

6 string further includes the steps of receiving a suggested macro string for the

7 identified string of characters, and wherein the step of replacing the string of

8 characters with a unique macro string includes the step of generating the

9 unique macro string based on the suggested macro string that is received.

1 12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,
2 further comprising the computer-implemented step of compiling the computer
3 program to generate an executable, including substituting in the executable the hard
4 coded string in the executable for each instance of the unique macro string in the
5 computer program.

1 13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 8,
2 further comprising the computer-implemented steps of:

3 parsing a the computer program to locate a second hard coded strings string contained

4 therein; therein, wherein the second hard coded string is different than the

5 hard coded string;

6 creating and storing a mapping of macros to strings characters;

7 in response to locating a the second hard coded string contained in the computer
8 program, determining whether a macro was previously generated for the
9 second hard coded string by searching the mapping; and
10 generating a ~~corresponding second~~ macro uniquely associated with the second hard
11 coded string only when a macro was not previously generated for the second
12 hard coded string.

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- 1 14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer system for transforming character strings
2 that are contained in a ~~a memory~~; memory, the computer system comprising:
3 one or more processors coupled to the memory;
4 a conversion mechanism;
5 a stored mapping that defines one or more associations ~~of~~ between macros and
6 strings;
7 one or more sequences computer instructions contained in the memory and associated
8 with the conversion mechanism which, when executed by the one or more
9 processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:
10 automatically parsing a computer program to identify ~~identifying~~ a hard coded
11 string that is contained in the computer program;
12 replacing the hard coded string contained in the computer program with a
13 macro that is uniquely associated with the hard coded string;
14 creating and storing ~~an entry~~ in the mapping of macros to string, an entry that
15 defines an association between the macro and the hard coded string;
16 ~~using the macro and the string;~~ and
17 referencing the mapping in a program element that is associated with the
18 computer program.

1 15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, wherein
2 the step of automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string
3 includes: identifying a string further comprises the steps of:
4 identifying one or more computer programs that contain one or more hard coded
5 strings; and
6 automatically parsing at least one of the one or more of the computer programs to
7 identify the one or more hard coded strings while copying instructions from at
8 least one of the one or more of the computer programs to an output.

1 16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, wherein
2 the step of automatically parsing a computer program to identify a hard coded string
3 that is contained in the computer program includes automatically parsing a computer
4 program to identify a hard coded string that is both contained in the computer
5 program and does not already have a corresponding macro uniquely associated with
6 the hard coded string. identifying a string further includes the steps of:
7 parsing a computer program to locate hard coded strings contained therein; and
8 in response to locating a string, determining whether a macro was previously
9 generated for the string; and generating a corresponding macro uniquely
10 associated with the string only when a macro was not previously generated.

1 17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, further
2 comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
3 receiving a suggested macro for the identified hard coded string, and
4 generating the macro to replace the hard coded string contained in the computer
5 program based upon the suggested macro. wherein the step of identifying a
6 string further includes the steps of receiving a suggested macro string for the

7 identified string of characters, and wherein the step of replacing the string of
8 characters with a unique macro string includes the step of generating the
9 unique macro string based on the suggested macro string that is received.

1 18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, further
2 comprising the computer-implemented step of compiling the computer program to
3 generate an executable, including substituting in the executable the hard coded string
4 ~~in the executable~~ for each instance of the ~~unique macro string~~ in the computer
5 program.

1 19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system as recited in Claim 14, further
2 comprising the computer-implemented steps of:
3 parsing a the computer program to locate a second hard coded ~~strings~~ string contained
4 ~~therein; therein, wherein the second hard coded string is different than the~~
5 hard coded string;
6 ~~creating and storing a mapping of macros to strings characters;~~
7 in response to locating a the second hard coded string contained in the computer
8 program, determining whether a macro was previously generated for the
9 second hard coded string by searching the mapping; and
10 generating a ~~corresponding~~ second macro uniquely associated with the second hard
11 coded string only when a macro was not previously generated for the second
12 hard coded string.

1 20. (NEW) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions
2 for transforming hard coded character strings that are contained in a computer
3 program, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or
4 more processors causes the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

5 identifying a hard coded string that is contained in the computer program;
6 replacing the hard coded string in the computer program with a macro that is uniquely
7 associated with the hard coded string;
8 creating and storing in a macro file a macro definition that defines an association of
9 between the macro and the hard coded string; and
10 referencing the macro definition in the computer program using a compiler directive
11 that causes a compiler to include the macro file during compilation of the
12 computer program.

21. (NEW) An apparatus for transforming hard coded character strings that are contained
in a computer program, the apparatus comprising a memory carrying one or more
sequences of instructions which, when executed by one or more processors causes the
one or more processors to perform the steps of:
identifying a hard coded string that is contained in the computer program;
replacing the hard coded string in the computer program with a macro that is uniquely
associated with the hard coded string;
creating and storing in a macro file a macro definition that defines an association of
between the macro and the hard coded string; and
referencing the macro definition in the computer program using a compiler directive
that causes a compiler to include the macro file during compilation of the
computer program.